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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/662,595	09/15/2003	Rongsheng Miao	50734/MJM/E349	1302
23363	7590	05/19/2005	EXAMINER	
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP			MOONEY, MICHAEL P	
PO BOX 7068			ART UNIT	
PASADENA, CA 91109-7068			PAPER NUMBER	
			2883	

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/662,595

Applicant(s)

MIAO ET AL.

Examiner

Michael P. Mooney

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 14, 17, 20, 26 and 27 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/19/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-12, 15-16, 18-19, 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchida (5277930).

Uchida teaches a fiber optic package (figs. 1A-3, fig. 21, col. 14 lines 40-64) comprising an optical fiber 68 (fig. 21) bonded to a substrate 72 (fig. 21) surface by a resin material 71 (col. 14 lines 50-55; fig. 21) covered by a plate 8 (e.g., fig. 2A). (figs. 1A-3, fig. 21, col. 14 lines 40-64).

Although Uchida does not explicitly state the word "epoxy" it would have been obvious to do so because it is notoriously well known to use an epoxy as the resin material.

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Furthermore, although Uchida does not explicitly state "diffusion retarding plate" it would have been obvious to do so because it is notoriously well known to use ring/plate, such as element 8 in fig. 2A of Uchida, that retards moisture. A plate/ring 8 that retards moisture is a diffusion retarding plate. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use a plate that retards moisture in order to optimize optical performance/coupling efficiency over the lifetime of the device.

Thus claim 1 is rejected.

By the reasons/references given above, Uchida teaches each and every element of claims 2-8, 11-12, 15-16, 18-19. Thus claims 2-8, 11-12, 15-16, 18-19 are rejected.

Uchida teaches a plate/ring 8 made of metal. (col. 6 lines 1-2). Thus claim 9 is rejected.

Although Uchida does not explicitly state that the resin/epoxy used at figure 21 is "non-conductive" it would have been obvious to do so because it is conventional to use non-conductive epoxy in an embodiment such as said figure 21. Thus claim 10 is rejected.

By the reasons and references given above each and every element of method claims 21-25 is rendered obvious. If Applicant disagrees with this obviousness holding, then Applicant should submit evidence showing this obviousness holding is errant. Examiner will then consider restricting. Thus claims 21-25 are rejected.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13-14, 17, 20, 26-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not disclose or render obvious the unique combination of each and every specific element stated in each of claims 13, 17, 20, 26-27.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P. Mooney whose telephone number is 571-272-2422. The examiner can normally be reached during weekdays, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 571-272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1562.


Michael P. Mooney
Examiner
Art Unit 2883


Frank G. Font
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2883

FGF/mpm
4/9/05